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MARYLAND URGES RESIDENTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCE REBATE PROGRAM

Program to replace inefficient appliances to end on November 12, 2010

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 4, 2010) – The Maryland Energy Administration is encouraging all Marylanders to take advantage of the popular Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program, which began on Earth Day 2010, before it concludes on Friday, November 12, 2010. The rebate program encourages residents to replace outdated, inefficient appliances in their homes with ENERGY STAR-rated equivalents, delivering financial savings directly to consumers and energy savings to the state energy grid.

Using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds, the Maryland Energy Administration has already processed rebates for more than 14,000 clothes washers, 3,500 refrigerators and nearly 3,000 central air conditioners and air source heat pumps. Rebates remain available for qualifying purchases whose rebate application is postmarked on or before Friday, November 12, 2010.

Marylanders can take advantage of the Appliance Rebate Program by purchasing one of the following ENERGY STAR appliances: central air conditioning units (\$500), air source heat pumps (\$500), room air conditioners (\$25) and freezers (\$100). Funds for qualifying super-efficient clothes washers (\$100), refrigerators (\$50), and electric heat pump water heaters (\$300) are also available for rebate applications postmarked by Friday, November 12, 2010.

"I am pleased that so many of my fellow Marylanders have already taken advantage of this incredible rebate program, which saves money for consumers and stimulates the contracting and retail industries that are currently suffering as a result of the ongoing recession," said Governor O'Malley. "I hope that everyone who has been considering making an investment in a new energy efficient appliance will take advantage of this program before it ends, and bring us closer to our goal of a 15% reduction in Maryland's energy consumption by 2015."

Program details, additional information and terms and conditions as well as rebate forms are available at <http://energy.maryland.gov>. Customers of Allegheny Power, BGE, Delmarva, Pepco and SMECO can click on the link to their utility's website from MEA's webpage to get program details, additional information and terms and conditions.

"This is an incredible opportunity for Marylanders to upgrade their home appliances and reduce their energy bills, which typically increase during the winter months," said Malcolm Woolf, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration. "If you've been thinking of upgrading your old, inefficient home appliance now is the best time to do so."

Please note: No rebates are guaranteed, and all rebates will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Incomplete or incorrectly filled-in applications will delay processing and reduce or eliminate chances of receiving a rebate. Rebates offered by the individual utilities in support of the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 are not affected by this announcement and will continue after November 12, 2010.

For more information, please visit <http://energy.maryland.gov/Residential/applianceRebate.html>.

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